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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9433
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 MOSCOW 001770

SIPDIS

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DOJ OF OPDAT/ALEXANDRE, LEHMANN AND NEWCOMBE, OCRS/OHR AND
SHASKY, OIA/BURKE AND DITTOE
STATE FOR EUR/RUS

EO 12958 DECL: 04/17/2017
TAGS ECON, KCRM, KJUS, PGOV, PREL, RS
SUBJECT: RUSSIA: MEETING WITH XXXXXXXXXXXXX
REF: A. MOSCOW 774 B. MOSCOW 697

Classified By: Ambassador William J. Burns for reasons 1.5 (b, d)

11. (C) Summary: Emboffs met with XXXXXXXXXXXXX. He described the new embezzlement and money laundering charges -- that Khodorkovskiy engaged

The New Charges

12. (C) On February 16, the General Procuracy charged Khodorkovskiy and Platon Lebedev with embezzlement and money laundering (Ref B). Accordir

13. (C) As an initial matter, XXXXXXXXXXXXX said that the new charges are simply a re-packaging of the charges in the first case. According to X

14. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXXX also said that the new charges are without merit since this transfer pricing technique was not only legal but engaged in b
MOSCOW 00001770 002 OF 003

purchased the output made by another part of the company at below-market prices before selling the same output at a market price.

15. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXXX defense would present substantial documentary evidence, including records of corporate meetings, proving that the minorit

The Trial: Where and When?

16. (C) The Procuracy filed the new charges in Chita, where Khodorkovskiy is presently incarcerated, and sought to conduct the preliminary inve

17. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXXX claimed that the Procuracy chose Chita to make it difficult for the defense team to meet with their clients and prepare t

18. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXXX also said that he did not know when the trial on the new charges would take place. He said that the prosecution had sought

The European Court of Human Rights

19. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXXX also said that Khodorkovskiy has filed two complaints to the ECHR in Strasbourg alleging violations of his rights under th
MOSCOW 00001770 003 OF 003
alleges that Khodorkovskiy was arrested and held in pre-trial detention in violation of the Convention. XXXXXXXXXXXXX said that the ECHR had agr

110. (C) The second complaint, he said, alleges violations of Khodorkovskiy's right to a fair trial. XXXXXXXXXXXXX explained that before adjudic

No Changes Expected

111. (C) In his final remarks, XXXXXXXXXXXXX claimed that the new charges against Khodorkovskiy are politically motivated and said that the case